Statement

State-wise number of rural and semi-urban *centres allotted by Reserve Bank of India to commercial banks including Regional* ***Rural Banks up to 31.1.1989.***

State/ Union Territory	No. of centres allotted
Andhra Pradesh	388
Arunachal Pradesh	29
Assam	260
Bihar	385
Gujarat	244
Goa	6
Haryana	128
Himachal Pradesh	163
Jammu & Kashmir	36
Karnataka	252
Kerala	74
Madhya Pradesh	486
Maharashtra	512
Manipur	20
Meghalaya	26
Mizoram	35
Nagaland	18
Orissa	183
Punjab	117
Rajasthan	239
Sikkim	7
Tamil Nadu	256
Tripura	35
Uttar Pradesh	927
West Bengal	519
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	8
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1
Delhi	1
Lakshadweep	3
Pondicherry	1
TOTAL	5359

Rubber plantation in Orissa

261. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the approximate areas in different parts of Orissa which have been brought under the Rubber Plantation so far;

(b) the year since when Rubber Plantation was started in Orissa and the result yielded, if any;

(c) whether Government have any proposal to bring additional hectares of land under Rubber Plantation in that State; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) About 180 hectares of land has been brought under rubber cultivation in different areas of Orissa so far.

(b) While trial plantations were started in 1966, the commercial cultivation started from 1984. The Growth performance is quite satisfactory though production has not so far started.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir, Rubber cultivation is being promoted in the districts of Mayurbhanj, Balasore, Denkanal, Cuttack, Puri and Ganjam. A Zonal office of the Rubber Board was set up in Bhubaneshwar and regional offices have been set up at Behrampur and Baripada. The rubber growers in Orissa are being given financial assistance under the Rubber Plantation Development Scheme which include cash subsidy, interest subsidy, additional assistance for use of planting material of advanced growth raised in polybags etc.

Development of handicrafts

262. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent on the development of handicrafts during the Seventh plan period so far;

(b) the various steps taken by Government for the development of handicrafts;

(c) the incentives being given to the rural artisans to promote handicrafts; and

(d) the details thereof?